

**Bundesverband der Dolmetscher  
und Übersetzer e.V.  
Der Bundesvorstand**

**BDÜ**

BDÜ e.V. · André Lindemann · Uhlandstraße 4-5 · 10623 Berlin

Bundesgeschäftsstelle  
Uhlandstraße 4-5  
10623 Berlin  
Tel.: +49 30 88712830  
Fax: +49 30 88712840  
www.bdue.de

André Lindemann  
Präsident  
Rosenstraße 14 C  
15374 Müncheberg  
Tel.: +49 33432 70459  
Fax: +49 33432 70656  
lindemann@bdue.de

Ihr Zeichen  
Your ref.

Ihr Schreiben  
Your letter

Unsere Zeichen  
Our ref.

Datum  
Date

09.03.2015

**Re: Proposed repeal of Translatørloven 1988**

Dear Sirs / Madams,

BDÜ is the largest association of professional interpreters and translators in Germany, representing more than 7,000 members many of whom are certified to work as legal interpreters and/or translators.

We are writing to you in support of the Danish professional translators and interpreters regarding the proposed repeal of Translatørloven 1988, which we regard as extremely unfortunate.

In recent years, the German government has in their new legislation increasingly recognized the importance of qualified language services in the justice system, which is also one of the key issues incorporated in EU Directive 2010/64/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of 20 October 2010.

We were therefore astonished to learn that the Danish government plans to abolish an established and hitherto exemplary system for providing such services to those working in the justice system and the people concerned. There can be no doubt that legal issues are due to their very nature often sensitive and of importance to those involved, as they frequently carry serious consequences. Any translation or interpretation within that context has therefore to be accurate, complete, and truthful, and is best provided by interpreters or translators whose personal integrity is in no doubt.

These requirements imply that any interpreter or translator rendering such services must and should be properly qualified and, in terms of integrity, should be of proven reliability. Official authorization of interpreters and/or translators is a good way to make sure that these requirements are met and provide the legal professions or the authorities involved as well as the persons concerned with a level of certainty and a promise of quality that should not be abolished lightly.

It should also be noted that, in our experience, quality language services can help to shorten proceedings or to secure their outcome, which reduces overall costs and contributes to the justice system's efficiency.

We believe that our Danish colleagues would be pleased to work with you and are certainly able to make a valuable input to your efforts of revising your Act in a manner that allows you to reach your goals while upholding your exemplary standards, envied by so many.

Yours faithfully,



André Lindemann  
President